Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01

AID-05 AGR-05 SS-15 /075 W

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R 290800Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1365

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E.O. 11652: NA

SUBJ: CUSTOMS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT EVALUATION

REF: A. STATE 178547 B. BANGKOK 20880

- 1. WE GENERALLY CONCUR WITH SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL A., AND OFFER COMMENTS ON APPROPRIATE MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THEM.
- 2. REF A PARA 2, SUGGESTION REGARDING MARINE OPERATIONS PLAN IS WELL TAKEN.

PLAN HAS ALREADY BEEN DEVELOPED BY RTG CUSTOMS, AND WAS SUBMITTED TO USOM ON JUL 20. MISSION IS NOW PROCEEDING WITH ITS REVIEW. AS SUGGESTED, VIEWS AND COMMENTS OF THAI MARINE POLICE ARE BEING SOLICITED DURING THIS REVIEW. EVALUATION TEAM WILL ALSO BE REQUESTED TO COMMENT ON OPERATIONS PLAN.

- 3. PER REF A PARA 3, WE AGREE THAT DEA AND AID ADVISORS TO TNPD SHOULD HAVE A ROLE IN SUBJECT EVALUATION. WE PROPOSE TO USE DEA AND AID ADVISORS AS RESOURCE PEOPLE DURING EVALUATION TO CALL ON THEIR INSIGHTS AND EXPERTISE, NOT AS FORMAL MEMBERS OF EVALUATION TEAM. THEIR COMMENTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN EVALUATION REPORT.
- 4. PER REF A PARA 4, WE AGREE THAT EFFECTIVENESS OF NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION EFFORTS ALONG THAILAND'S LAND BORDERS SHOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUBJ OF EVALUATION. HOWEVER, RTG CUSTOMS PLAYS NO ACTIVE

NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION ROLE IN BORDER AREAS, WHILE BPP HAS MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS FUNCTION AND HAS SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES COMMITTED TO IT. WE THERFORE PROPOSE THAT EVALUATION OF TNPD NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT (PHASE THREE OF PLANNED NARCOTICS PROGRAM EVALUATIONS) IS MORE APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY FOR EVALUATING TOTAL NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION EFFORTS IN BORDER AREAS.

5. WITH REGARD TO PARA 6 OF REF A, EMBASSY INQUIRIES INTO HANDLING AND DISPOSITION OF SEIZED NARCOTICS ARE REPORTED IN REF B. IN VIEW OF EMBASSY'S CONTINUING EFFORTS WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD NOT BE ADDRESSED IN SUBJ EVALUATION, EXEPT FOR MANNER IN WHICH RTG CUSTOMS DISPOSES OF NARCOTICS THEY SEIZE. WE PROPOSE THAT IT ALSO BE COVERED FULLY IN TNPD ENFORCEMENT PHASE OF NARCOTICS PROGRAM EVALUATION.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS ON ABOVE PROPOSALS. IN THE MEANTIME, WE SHALL PROCEED WITH PLANNING WITH THE RTG FOR THIS EVALUATION. WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION, PROGRESS REPORTS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 29 JUL 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ultricre
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO21326

Document Number: 1976BANGKO21326 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D760292-1367 From: BANGKOK

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760711/aaaaaizg.tel Line Count: 80

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 STATE 178547, 76 BANGKOK 20880

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 27 JUL 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUL 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2004 by ullricre>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CUSTOMS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT EVALUATION TAGS: SNAR, TH, US
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006